

Today I am introducing a bill that models itself after laws already on the books in 15 States and a number of localities. These laws, known as child access prevention [CAP] laws, make it the legal responsibility of gun dealers to provide—and of gun owners to use—gun safety devices. Best of all, we know from experience that this is an approach that works. Florida, the first State to pass such a law, showed a 50-percent drop in unintentional shooting deaths among kids the first year after passage. California has shown similar results after passing a CAP law.

My bill would: require gun dealers to offer to sell a locking device or lock box for safe gun storage and post a sign stating that this law is in effect; making gun owners legally responsible for leaving a loaded firearm, or a firearm near ammunition, in a place where kids could gain access.

People regularly child proof their home to protect children from harming themselves. By making potential gun buyers aware of these problems and by offering a solution at the point of sale, we can child proof guns in the home, leading to fewer gun-related accidents and a greater sense of awareness about gun safety.

HONORING RAY MEDLIN

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 1997

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize G. Ray Medlin of my district, on his receipt of the Northwest Ohio Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation's Humanitarian Award. Ray will be honored in Toledo, OH on February 25, 1997.

Ray has served our community, our State, and our Nation in many capacities. He is a dedicated and diligent trade union leader, having served as the executive secretary-treasurer of the Northwest Ohio District Council of Carpenters and president of the Northwest Ohio Building and Construction Trades Council. He currently is the executive director of the Carpenters Health and Safety Fund of North America.

Extending his commitment outside his profession, Ray serves as a key member on several northwest Ohio boards including the Bowling Green State University Board of Trustees which he currently chairs, the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority Board, the Toledo Regional Growth Committee, the Riverside Hospital Board, and the Rossford, OH Economic Growth Committee.

Ray Medlin directs his energies to those ventures which will reap economic rewards for our region, thereby assisting our entire community in achieving economic security. In that sense, he is a classic humanitarian: Focusing his volunteer efforts on bettering the lives of his fellow citizens. He is a worthy recipient of the Northwest Ohio Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation's 1997 Humanitarian Award. I am pleased to join the organization in congratulating him and acknowledging his service and commitment to us all.

MENOPAUSE OUTREACH, RESEARCH, AND EDUCATION ACT

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 1997

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, women hold a unique and very special place in today's society. Women must be multifaceted—they have many roles which they must fulfill. In addition to the role of wife and mother, many women must also work outside the home and have many demands made upon their time.

While women experience the same stresses and strains that all Americans must contend with, women have special health concerns that affect them directly as a group.

Health care has been the focal point of discussion in and outside of Congress over the past few years. Why should women's health care needs be treated any differently from other health care problems? Simply because women experience all the normal aches and pains, but they are also struck with diseases which are predominant among women.

Since women live approximately a third of their lives—about 30 years—after menopause, it is crucial that we learn more about this passage in a woman's life. That is why I am reintroducing the Menopause, Outreach, Research and Education Act [MORE] to provide a program for research and education regarding menopause and related conditions.

APPROVING THE PRESIDENTIAL FINDING REGARDING THE POPU- LATION PLANNING PROGRAM

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration (H.J. Res. 36) approving the Presidential finding that the limitation on obligations imposed by section 518A(a) of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1997:

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of House Joint Resolution 36 to release funding for international family planning programs.

Through family planning services, women and their families are given essential prenatal care and health services. Recognizing the importance of this effort, the United States has been the leader in providing family planning services throughout the world.

In fact, since 1965, the United States has supported population planning assistance in developing nations. These programs provide the means for avoiding unintended pregnancies, and therefore, play an essential role in reducing abortions.

Each year, over 580,000 women die from complications of pregnancy and childbirth. Ninety-nine percent of these women live in developing countries. Furthermore, in developing countries, more than 31,000 children under the age of 5 die each day.

Mr. Chairman, family planning reduces maternal and child mortality by educating women

and their families about their reproductive choices. Furthermore, these programs provide essential medical resources to help infants with immunizations, nutrition, and disease control.

If the funding for these important services is continued to be delayed, we will deny informed and effective use of reproductive and contraceptive services to couples who depend upon these programs. In fact, when contraceptive services are not available to women, abortion rates increase.

Unfortunately, during last year's budget debate, abortion opponents cut international family planning funds by 35 percent, and mandated that fiscal year 1997 funds could not be spent until July 1997 unless President Clinton submitted a finding to Congress which demonstrated that the holding of these funds is having a negative impact on developing countries.

As President Clinton has reported to Congress, any further delay in the access of family planning services will have a negative impact on population programs and will result in "increased unintended pregnancies, more abortions, and higher numbers of maternal and infant deaths."

Mr. Chairman, this is not a vote on abortion. By law, these funds cannot be used to provide or promote abortions. Funding for these programs should be released immediately. The only way to reduce the number of abortions worldwide is to reduce the number of unwanted pregnancies. The most effective way to accomplish this is through family planning services.

Mr. Chairman, the benefits of family planning are undeniable. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting House Joint Resolution 36.

TRIBUTE TO YAKOV AND SYLVIA YELLIN

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 1997

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Yakov and Sylvia Yellin, who this year are recipients of a special award from Shaarey Zedek congregation in north Hollywood. As members of the congregation, the Yellins have taken the lead in the construction of a new building at Shaarey Zedek, which is the largest Orthodox shul in the San Fernando Valley. Indeed, Yakov Yellin recently completed a highly successful 2-year term as synagogue president.

Yakov's dedication to Shaarey Zedek is no surprise; he is a rabbi who spent 5 years as head of a congregation in San Jose, CA. He also spent nearly 2 years as Post Jewish Chaplain at the U.S. Army Base at Fort Sill, OK. Shaarey Zedek is fortunate to have someone of such stature in its congregation.

Sylvia Yellin, the child of Holocaust survivors, has a similar commitment to Orthodox Judaism. She attended Hillel Academy elementary school in Denver and graduated from Esther Schoenfeld High School in Brooklyn. She has served on several synagogue boards, and headed the chaplain's wives' club at Fort Sill.